



GIG  
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WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**  
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

**gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser**  
**caring for each other, working together, always improving**

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-B-013

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

██████████  
████████████████████

Corporate Services  
Headquarters  
1 Talbot Gateway  
Baglan  
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear ██████████

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Your request sought information relating to deaths from COVID-19. Your request came in response to FOI reference 20-L-037, which we sent to you on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

### **1. Why don't you separate Covid only deaths out, most UK hospitals do?**

The Health Board's information systems do not code the cause of death; such information could only be obtained by reference to the individual's death certificate. Death certificates are not held by the Health Board, but by the Registrar of Deaths (in the local authority).

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) provide us with data relating to COVID deaths where COVID-19 is mentioned anywhere on the death certificate, including as a contributing factor. We are not able to split this data further in order to exclude contributing factors to death and therefore provide you with "COVID only deaths" – we can only provide *total* figures where COVID-19 is listed as the primary cause for death *or* as a contributing factor.

In the period 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020, there were 457 deaths in our hospitals where COVID-19 was listed on the death certificate either as the cause of death or a contributing factor. We are not able to split this data further in order to exclude contributing factors to death, therefore we recommend that you contact the ONS, who may be able to provide this breakdown for you on [foi.team@ons.gov.uk](mailto:foi.team@ons.gov.uk).



**Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR**

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

**2. Also could I request this information every hospital in South Wales of covid only deaths from Jan 2020 to current day?**

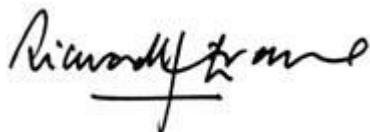
If you wish to request information for the other hospitals in South Wales that are not within Swansea Bay Health Boards remit, you will need to contact each health board directly for this information

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



On behalf of

Pam Wenger

**Director of Corporate Governance**

